

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Ken Faunce
Commission Chair

~Minutes~
June 18, 2019

James Fry
Staff Liaison

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<http://www.ci.moscow.id.us/commissions/Pages/human-rights.aspx>

The meeting was called to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Faunce, Ari Carter, Jana Argersinger, Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Erin Agidius, Jesse Martinez, Defne Yuksel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Elizabeth Stevens, Becky Tallent, Sandra Kelly, Meredith Metsker, Bruce Pitman, Steve Simmons,

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Tyson Berrett, Staff Liaison; Anne Zabala, City Council Liaison; Karen Potter, Deputy Clerk; Joann Muneta, ex-officio, Guest Jacob Lockhart, ASUI President

1. Approval of Minutes of May 21, 2019 (ACTION ITEM)

Agidius moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Argersinger, and the motion carried.

2. Review of Calendar (ACTION ITEM)

The calendar was reviewed and there was no changes.

3. Social Justice Forum – Free Speech / Hate Speech Speaker (ACTION ITEM)

Faunce reported that since the last meeting, Tallent had asked Katie Blevins, a constitutional lawyer, to present at a free speech / hate speech forum to address legal definitions and where the line is between the two. The forum would be held in October or November. Some additional ideas for the forum were discussed such as free speech for public entities and what limitations institutions currently abide by; the impact which hate speech has on the community and institutions; and hate speech in the workplace and in schools and how to deal with it. There is currently not a clear reporting system for tracking hate incidents which occur in the City of Moscow. Faunce will talk to City Supervisor Riedner about tracking reported incidents as well as any feedback and/or data gathered surrounding these events. These efforts could also be coordinated with Chief Fry. This item will be on the July agenda. At that time, more information will be available to determine if there is a City-approved process which can be set up by the Commission. Awwad-Rafferty moved that the Human Right Commission host a Social Justice Forum on free speech / hate speech in the fall of 2019. Agidius seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

4. Social Justice Forum – Stop the Hate Workshop (ACTION ITEM)

It was suggested a Stop the Hate Workshop be held as a Social Justice Forum following the free speech / hate speech forum. This workshop could be held at the 1912 Center or the Kenworthy. Agidius moved to hold a Social Justice Forum Stop the Hate workshop sometime the fall of 2019. This motion was seconded by Awwad-Rafferty, and the motion carried.

REPORTS

1. Latah Human Rights Task Force Report.

Plans for Human Rights Day at the Market are being solidified. The theme is voting rights and the Task Force is narrowing down topics to be covered.

2. HRC at the Market

Tabling will be at the Farmers Market this Saturday. Two people are needed per shift. A signup sheet was distributed. The Commission hosts a table twice a year. Faunce sets up and takes down at the Market.

3. HRC Report to City Council

Once a year the Commission reports to City Council about activities and events held in the past year and what has been planned for the future using a PowerPoint presentation. Faunce will present on Monday, July 1. All are invited to attend.

4. Community Voice / Human Rights Issues – Faunce

Shoe boxes will be decorated and ready for the Farmers Market this Saturday. Surveys have been printed and will be distributed to local businesses and locations at UI.

5. Future Social Justice Forum – Art Show

This item will remain on the agenda and will be addressed next year.

6. Moscow High School Survey – Carter

Seven to eight hundred surveys were completed by students and are currently being counted. Results will be available in approximately one month.

7. Indigenous Peoples Day

Faunce will be meeting with Philip Stephens and tribal leaders regarding Indigenous Peoples Day activities. He will also meet with Sidel Samuels.

8. Inclusive Communities Month Theme – Mental Health

Latah Recovery Center is very excited to be part of Inclusive Communities Month. They will co-sponsor the event and would also like to join the potluck. The Disability Action Center is also eager to be involved. There will be a meeting to gather ideas for providing information and education for the community.

9. Pride Festival

The Commission will have a table at the Pride Festival in August. A signup sheet for the booth will be available at the July HRC meeting. The Pride March will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the Festival will begin at noon.

10. Food Insecurity / Poverty on the Palouse Update

The name of Poverty on the Palouse has been changed to “Weaving Abundance on the Palouse”. This group is collecting resources to create one central “hub” of information for use by community members. They will be tabling at the Farmer’s Market. Their general meeting will be held on Thursday, July 20, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

11. Status of Pesticides in City Parks and Collaboration with Sustainable Environment Commission

There was no report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Councilmember Zabala inquired if the City provided diversity training on gender and race. UI has resources for this type of training. The Commission can write a letter and vote to make a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council pertaining to diversity training for City personnel.
- b. Councilmember Zabala would like to be included on the agenda regularly in the REPORTS section to share any information from the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Minutes Approved On

JUL 16 2019

Karen Potter
Clerk/Deputy Signature